

50X1-HUM

DATE OF
INFORMATION 1949

DATE DIST. 7 Feb 1950

NO. OF PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

COKING COAL INDUSTRY OF THE KUZBASS AND POSSIBILITIES FOR ITS EXPANSION

Considerable work has been done on geological surveys of coal deposits in the Kurass during the past 10-12 years but the quality of the coal has not been adequately studied. Thorough analysis of coal samples from these deposits is important, but petrographic studies of the deposits themselves should precede this.

Certain previous studies revealed the presence of PZh (steam-fat) coal in the bottom level of the Yermakovskiy coal beds. In the Balakhonskiy coal beds each of the coal seams consists of different petrographic types which occur in different seams in different relations. In general, coking coal is in the top level and under favorable petrographic conditions also in the middle level. In a study made in Priskop'yevskiy Rayon on the quality of coal over the extent of the seam it was discovered that the volatile components of the coal in the seam decreased .5 percent per kilometer.

In spite of the fact that the prospects for developing coking coal in the Kuzbass are good, it is entirely wrong to base further development of the coking industry solely on K (coking) coal. Experiments have disclosed that 40 percent of the high-melting coking coal of the basin can be utilized for coking charges; however, since the coking industry is expanding so greatly, it is recommended that other types of coal be added to the charge: gas coal (maximum amount), lean coal, and coal with a high ash content (suitable for coking purposes after dressing). Coke ovens should be adapted to take different types of coal in their charge.

The coking industry can be further developed by coal supplies from deposits in the southeast border of the basin. There is a coal deposit on the right bank of the U-su River, near the river's mouth. Exploration of the area since 1936 has disclosed that the amount of volatile components in this coal increase

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in a northern direction and 25 kilometers northeast of the mouth of the U-su the volatile components amount to 25 percent. Under favorable petrographic conditions it is possible to find PZh coal on one side and K coal on the other.

Coal beds on the right bank of the U-su extend directly to the left bank of the Tom' River and run from this point to the Siberginskiy deposit on the Mras-su River. The coking coal of the right bank of the U-su retains its quality as far as the left bank of the Tom', but the extent it retains its quality in the direction of the Mras-su is questionable.

In drilling carried out on the left bank of the Mras-su, opposite the Siberginskiy deposit, KO coal was found at a distance of 13 kilometers from the left bank of the Tom', along the strike of the strata. The presence of K coal can only be determined by proper sampling of coal along the stretch.

The deposits of the Balakhonskiy coal beds extend continuously along this border of the basin, from the Mras-su River to the Kondoma River. In drilling on the right bank of the Kondoma, brand K coal was found. The distance between the drilling along the strike of the seams and that on the left bank of the Mras-su is 50 kilometers. It is difficult to assume that the quality of the coal remains unchanged over such a distance, but the extent of the changes can only be determined by sampling the coal. There may be considerable coking coal supplies here. This is a taiga region and difficult to work. One region adjoining the right bank of the Kondoma River is more accessible. If the coking coal discovered in drilling on the right bank of the Kondoma retains its quality further east and extends to part of the coal of the Alardinskiy deposits, then its utilization presents no problem in view of the proximity of railroads to this region.

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